

# The Pocahontas Times.

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least twice a year. The exact date

of his visit will appear in this

paper.

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Office in 1st Nat. Bank Bldg., 2nd floor.

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Guarantee Company

This company will furnish bonds

of all county, state and municipal

officers; fiduciary bonds, such as

administrators, guardians, etc.;

junction bonds; bank officials,

agents, indemnifying bonds, in

court bonds of all kinds; attach-

ment bonds, etc.

T. S. McNEEL,

## WHEN

### DOES A MAN BECOME OLD.

It is Not the Passing of Years That

Age.

"All him not old, whose vision

holds o'er the past its undivided

reign.

For him in vain the envious seasons

roll

Who bears eternal summer in his

soul.

It is not the minstrel's song, the

poet's lay,

Spring with her birds, or children

with their play,

Or maiden's smile, or heavenly

dream of art

Stir the few life drops creeping

round his heart—

Turn to the record where his years

are told—

Count his gray hairs—they can-

not make him old!"

Not long ago we learned of an

insurance company writing a life

insurance policy for a man sixty

odd years old for the sum of twenty

thousand dollars and the same

week a man of thirty years was

refused a policy as being a bad

risk. This is not so unusual but

that it might happen every day in

a large insurance company's office

without exciting any comment

whatsoever.

We can imagine what would hap-

pen if men of the ages given were

candidates for the pastorate of a

church or were offering for an of-

fice in the gift of the people.

With the same gentle impulse

that causes the Indians of Alaska

to club the aged to death we would

reject the old man in favor of the

younger.

Age cuts a great figure in a

regiment of horse traders and

with a similar impulse they turn

out the aged pastor—put him on

the market to be spoken—and in

this they are some times ably as-

sisted by the caucus of young preach-

ers pulling strings to

the grogging preach-

ers.

The annuity tables, as they are

called, throw some strange light-

on the chances of life. The table

compiled in the Code of West

Virginia is from the statistics fur-

nished by observing ten thousand

lives from the age of one year to

the age of ninety-four.

In that table the chance for

life increases to the age of eight

years.

A man at twenty-one has 12,329

years but if he lives fifty years

longer and is seventy-one his

chances of life has not decreased

as much as one might think as he

has 5,479 years left to him.

This being the average age the

chances of life are greatly in-

creased by good health at all ages.

In fact the danger of dying of old

age does not threaten very many

and it is the danger of disease, bad

habits and accidents that threaten

most of us and they are to be met

and faced at all ages.

The older a man is the wiser he

is if he ever had any sense at all.

Take the profession of law for

instance, the only thing that saves

the young practitioner is that old

lawyers who have not fallen by the

way side and been decently filed

away, can only do a day's work,

and cannot give the very much

smaller docket, and by thorough

preparation, the young lawyer

sometimes crawls up on the old

man's blind side. The old lawyer

carries his fifty years of training

into the great beyond, and the

young comes over the trail and

does the same thing.

The large experience of every

professional man is in the greatest

demand except in the case of the

poor minister. His hearers listen

to him in pain and begin to clamor

that he take a rest and incidentally

give them one. With him time

is out of joint.

In one way the youngster has

something that the old man has

not and that is the ability to won-

der. That is to become interest-

ed in many things, but the boy

never knows what a faculty he has

for real happiness until it is too

late.

"O for one hour of youthful joy!

Give back my twentieth spring.

I'd rather laugh a bright-eyed boy!

Than reign a gray-beard king!"

Off with the wrinkled spoils of age!

Away with learning's crown,

Fear out life's wisdom written

page,

And dash its trophies down!

One moment let my life blood

stream

From boy-hood's fount of flame!

Give me one giddy, reeling dream

Of life all love and fame!

The Old Cattleman.

At the recent meeting of the

West Virginia Bar Association at

Wheeling a prominent lawyer

asked the meeting to consider the

opinion in a certain case handed

down in the Supreme Court in

which he was a party and in which

he had been scored. The law-

yers present seemed to regard the

request as a sort of bomb shell

and without taking any definite

action elected the lawyer presi-

dent of the Association. Daily

Paper.

"It's up at Wheelin'" re-

marked the Old Cattleman filling

his pipe with Bull Durham to-

bacco, "an' all them law-sharps

come trailin' into camp. The

proprietors of them life savin'

stations, you-all call 'loons see

these yere strangers and size 'em

up, mental, an' puts on three

shifts of barkeeps, an' that thar

Bar Association shore gets down

to business.

"Long about fourth drink time

one mornin' a long horn from

Tucson rises up in meetin' an'

allows that thar's a Sopremo

Co't Judge what maintains hos-

tilities agin him; and that he has

lammed loose an' give him a

mane chewin' an' keeps him up

with great spirit and voice an'

an' bein' as we-all so regards

it not accordin' to Hoyle to go

an' shoot up a Judge, he wants

to know what we-all saves him

better do about it; bein' he says

he never regarded himself that

mean an' low down an' if the

same is a fact, he'd go an' be a

Mexican sheep herder.

"We then reads all them re-

marks these yere Judge makes

ag'n this long-horn which shore

do look egregious. We gets

down where he lanches into a

gen'ral discussion about how he

is, in his opinion, a tryin' to

hawg-tie an' throw his brand onto

a man's piece of land up Larc'o

way. An' when he chanches on

them theories of his'n it was ro-

mantic a whole lot.

"It got under the har of this

yere law sharp and he puts the

question to the line-up: 'If these

yere things be veracious that

he'll go off an' be a Mexican,

like a high sperritted gent, what

he is."

"It's a terrible jolt to his

gen'ral sensibilities.

"Now we ain't none desirous

to line up on this yere fight or

speeshful friend has with the el-

ements. And speeshfully we don't

want to braid no mule's tail for

relaxation.

"That Judge is a stern quiet

gent, an' all us young-ones is

wont to step high an' softly when

ever he's pesterin' 'round.

"Yere we puts in half a day a

pokin' around to see what crimes

he'd done and then we lays it on

the table.

"That long-horn was shorely

depressed when he sees himself

set down upon like a Mexican

and we turns 'round an' elects

him President of the round up

which allays his anger a whole

lot."

Sheldon Moore of Mt. Tabor

vicinity, was in Marlinton Monday

on one of his seldom visits.

It was a queer custom of old

English courts and Scottish lords

to have near them a accredited

fool, either half-witted or too full

witted. "These 'fools' were

quick at repartee and ready on

the instant for answers containing

fun and sometimes wisdom; at

any rate the